

Message Text

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ACTION FBOE-00

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R 271650Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6062

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 1803

DAKAR FOR JAMES KARR; ABIDJAN FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, ABLD, MR

SUBJECT: PERIMETER LIGHTING ON EMBASSY COMPOUND

REF: (A) NOUAKCHOTT 142 (NOTAL), (B) STATE 24549.7 (C) NOUAKCHOTT
277, (D) STATE 38488, (E) STATE 175206 (NOTAL), (F) STATE
OM DATED JANUARY 23, 1976

1. PERIMETER LIGHTING PLAN DRAWN UP FOR EMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
COMPOUND BY DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED 44 LIGHT FIXTURES ON 22
TEN METER HIGH POLES. NOT ONLY ARE WE HAVING DIFFICULTY LOCATING
SUFFICIENTLY HIGH POLES, BUT DOUBT HAS BEEN RAISED RE CAPABILITY
OF EXISTING EMERGENCY GENERATOR TO SUPPLY EVEN PORTION OF PROPOSED
NETWORK. FURTHER, IT IS QUESTIONABLE WHETHER ELECTMRICAL INTAKE
PANEL FOR COMPOUND CAN HANDLE THIS ADDITIONAL LOAD. FINALLY,
WE QUESTION BOTH NEED AND POLITICAL DESIRABILITY OF TURNING
MISSION COMPOUND INTO ILLUMINATION EQUIVALENT OF SHOPPING CENTER
PARKING LOT.

2. FOR REASONS CITED ABOVE, WE AGREE WITH VIEW EXPRESSED REF E
THAT ORIGINAL LIGHTING PROPOSAL CAN BE PARED DOWN. IN PARTI-
CULAR, WE NO LONGER SEE NEED FOR LIGHTS TO BE PLACED ON TOP OF
HIGH POLES. WE THINK ADEQUATE LIGHTING CAN BE OBTJDND BY PLACING
SOME OF FIXTURES ON TOP OF PERIMETER SECURITY WALL. IN ADDITION,
IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO REDUCE BOTH NUMBER OF LAMPS AND WATTAGE OF
BULBS.

3. AT SAME TIME, WE WISH TO MOVE AHEAD WITH WALL AND LIGHTING
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PROJECT AND, THEREFORE, QUESTION NEED FOR POSTPONEMENT OF DECISION

ON LIGHTING UNTIL VISIT (SEPTEMBER AT EARLIEST) BY RSO. ALL REQUIRED EXPERTISE IS ALREADY CONCENTRATED IN WASHINGTON. NEXT STEP WOULD APPEAR TO BE ASSEMBLING ALL EXPERTS IN ONE ROOM AND FOCUSING THEIR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION ON NOUAKCHOTT LIGHTING PROBLEM. IF ASSEMBLED EXPERTS FIND THEY LACK SOME SIGNIFICANT TECHNICAL INFORMATION, THEN FULLY QUALIFIED TECHNICIAN(S) (PRESUMABLY INCLUDING A LIGHZING ENGINEER) SHOULD BE SENT TO NOUAKCHOTT ASAP TO COMPLETE DETAILED DESIGN OF SECURITY LIGHTING SYSTEM, TO PREPARE DETAILED PLAN FOR REVISION/EXPANSION OF EXISTING COMPOUND ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION AND EMERGENCY POWER SYSTEM, AND TO WRITE UP DETAILED SPECS FOR ALL MATERIEL REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT ENTIRE ELECTRICAL SYSTEM/ SECURITY LIGHTING UP-GRADE PROJECT.

4. WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR DEPARTMENT TO SEND US PLANS FOR EAST WALL. IT WAS OUR HOPE (REF. A) THAT THESE PLANS WOULD INCLUDE PROVISION FOR LIGHTING SYSTEM FOR THAT PORTION OF WALL. IF EAST WALL PLANS DO NOT ALREADY INCLUDE ARRANGMENTS FOR LIGHTING, WE URGE THAT THIS BE DONE ON URGENT BASIS BEARING IN MIND ABOVE COMMENTS. ALTHOUGH WE YIELD TO EXPERTS IN WASHINGTON, 175 WATT MERCURY VAPOR BULBS WOULD SEEM TO US TO BE ADEQUATE. ONCE EAST WALL AND CONCOMITANT LIGHTING ARE INSTALLED, NEW LIGHTING SYSTEM CAN THEN BE EXTENDED TO OTHER THREE PERIMETER WALLS AND REST OF COMPOUND. REVISED LIGHTING PROPOSAL SHOULD INCLUDE PROVISION FOR SHORT-TERM LOCATION AND INSTALLATION OF LIGHTS DESTINED FOR THREE REMAINING WALLS WHICH WILL NOT BE REPLACED IN NEAR FUTURE.

5. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP. HANDYSIDE

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